

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 22-24, 29, 33, 41-43, 51-53, 61, 69, 77, 89-91, 94-96, 99 and 102 are currently being cancelled.

Claims 27, 36, 46, 92, 97, 100 and 103 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment cancels and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 26-28, 30-32, 36, 37, 45-47, 50, 54-57, 60, 62, 63, 67, 68, 72, 73, 76, 78, 79, 81, 82, 92, 93, 97, 98, 100, 101 and 103-117 are now pending in this application.

Applicants appreciate the indication in the Office Action that claims 26, 30, 31, 36, 37, 45, 50, 54, 55, 60, 62, 63, 67, 68, 72, 73, 76, 78, 79, 81, 82, and 105-117 are allowed, as well as the indication in the Office Action that claims 27, 28, 32, 46, 47, 56, 57, 92, 93, 97, 98, 100, 101, 103 and 104 would be allowed if amended to place those claims in independent form. By way of this amendment and reply, claims 27, 46, 92, 97, 100 and 102 have each been placed in independent form to include the features of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, all of the presently pending claims are now in allowable form.

Claim Objections:

In the Office Action, claims 36 and 69 were objected to because of informalities noted on page 2 of the Office Action. Claim 36 has been amended to correct the informality in that claim, and claim 69 has been canceled to thereby moot the objection to that claim.

Claim Rejections:

In the Office Action, claims 22-24, 29, 33, 41-43, 51-53, 61, 69, 77, 89-91, 94-96, 99 and 102 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,964,062 to Ubhayakar et al. Due to the cancellation of claims 22-24, 29, 33, 41-43, 51-53, 61, 69, 77, 89-91, 94-96, 99 and 102, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion:

Since there are no other objections or rejections raised in the Office Action that have not been addressed in the Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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